

Wilmington Nov. 18th 1871
My dear Dr. Gray

I rarely write letters on Sunday but this must be an exception because it is your birthday and because I want to tell you how glad I am that you have had so many and such active and useful years and that your "will" is not "dim" nor your "natural force abated". May God give you many more such years and bless you in them, making you in all days your best days.

My wife and I are extremely pleased with the prospect of seeing you in in the latter part of January. She desires her kindest regards to you and Mrs. Gray and her special congratulations to you today. We shall have

to a satisfaction in coming would
+ me coming. I am not to dis-
- us; and stay as long as you
en.

As to my going Eastward I suppose
I can hardly make it out until
after you coming this way. Har-
-ing will soon be here, and then Chick-
-ing is coming to see me, and after
that I expect to have to go to Pittsburg,
and then come the Christmas holidays,
and there is much to be done between
times. So for the two months or more
I shall be well occupied. We can
talk it over when we meet and
arrange.

I will not write more now than
to say how glad I am that I can
subscribe myself,

Your friend,
J. M. [unclear],
[unclear], Anty;